

\$2000 In Prizes Offered During Kid's Day

POLICE CHIEF RESIGNS; SUCCESSOR HOT ISSUE

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FIRST FATAL CRASH . . . Los Angeles Police ambulance attendants lift Virgil Pull onto a stretcher after his car was hit by a Torrance bus enroute to Los Angeles Sunday evening. He died enroute to the hospital a few minutes after this picture was taken by an amateur photographer, Allan Risk of Gardena. The traffic death was the first in the history of the city-owned bus lines.

Of Bus Lines

Death of L.B. Man Mars Safety Record

A record of 7,200,000 miles without a fatality involving a Torrance city-owned bus was shattered Sunday night when an L. A. bound bus smashed into the side of a car in Gardena killing the Long Beach driver of the auto.

Dead is Virgil Pull, 1948 Cerritos Ave. Driver of the bus, Silas Whitman, 30, 2819 Gramercy Ave., said he was proceeding northward with the green light at 161st and Figueroa when Pull suddenly made a left turn in front of the bus. Whitman, who was recently awarded a five year safety pin for driving five years without a chargeable accident, said he had no opportunity to stop. The bus driver has been employed by the city for seven years.

Council Objects To Supervisors Splitting City

Although the City of Torrance now has two representatives on the Board of Supervisors, instead of one, the City Council Tuesday night ordered a letter of protest be sent to the Board objecting to the recent redistricting which put parts of Torrance in Supervisor Kenneth Hahn's district.

Councilman Nick Drae, who has been mentioned as a possible Democratic candidate against Republican Burton W. Chace at the next supervisory election, made the motion. Drae, a resident of North Torrance, lived in the Fourth Supervisorial District until the boundaries were changed earlier this month. The area in which Drae lives, the section of Torrance north of 190th Street, is now in Hahn's district.

Supervisor Chace was appointed supervisor to succeed the late Raymond V. Darby and as an appointee must run for election at the next county general election.

Some political observers hailed the redistricting as a boon to the city since it would mean that Torrance would have both Chace and Hahn on the Board of Supervisors to plug for county improvements and services within the City of Torrance.

Main object as voiced at Tuesday's council meeting appeared to be that the city was not informed of the plan to slice Torrance into two districts—which should have been as a matter of political courtesy, objectors said.

Ordinance Would Ban Hog Ranches

A rough draft of an ordinance was presented to the City Council Tuesday night, which, if adopted, would outlaw hog ranches within the city by 1955.

In the meanwhile, owners of hog ranches must comply with county regulations or face a fine of \$500 or six months in jail or both for each day a violation is known to occur, the Council decided.

Young (and Old) Captain Kidds After Treasure

Treasure valuing more than \$2000 awaits modern-day pirates who will sail the golden bounding main here tomorrow and Saturday as the Kiwanis Club sponsors its annual Kids' Day.

The Captain Kidds and Long John Silvers, age 10 to 100, will spy out downtown store windows for the loot from 1 p.m. tomorrow to 1 p.m. the following day. Maps aiding them in the hunt are numbered tickets which they can purchase for \$1 from any member of the Kiwanis Club. Torrance merchant at the Chamber of Commerce.

The number on each ticket is the "open sesame" for the treasure; when the seekers find gifts matching the numbers on their tickets, all they have to do is step up and claim the prizes. Torrance merchants have cooperated in donating hundreds of prizes, so the treasure hunter will be able to find valuable gifts in all but a few windows.

All unclaimed cargo and three major additional prizes will be taken to El Prado Park Saturday at 3:30 p.m. Numbered tickets again will give the pirates their share of the loot.

A \$200 diamond dinner ring contributed by Howard's Jewelers; an \$88.55 genuine Ford car radio contributed by Schultz and Peckham, Torrance Ford Dealers; and a \$50 merchandise certificate contributed by Paul's Chevrolet, Torrance Chevrolet.

(Continued on Page 3)

Suicide Victim Writes of Moon In Final Note

A man who apparently believed his destiny was linked with the moon parked his red pickup by a tree, got out, sat against the tree propping his feet on the car running board, and shot himself in the head with a .22 calibre rifle Tuesday afternoon.

The victim, Angus Blaine MacDonald, 48, of 4446 W. Compton Blvd., Lawndale, was found at the tree west of Hawthorne Blvd., between 190th St. and Del Amo Blvd., by E. C. Lapp, 3500 Sepulveda Blvd., at 3:15 p.m.

The death weapon lay at his side where it had apparently slumped after the shot, fired sometime after 1 o'clock that afternoon, according to police reports.

Found on MacDonald's person was a small notebook in which

(Continued on Page 3)



TOUGH BREAK NO. 3 . . . Ray Palm, a visiting art instructor from the University of Mexico, hands some wreckage to Mrs. Earl Sampson after a neighbor's car knocked out the side of the home of his host. The owner of the house, Harold Mevert, suffered a multi-fracture of the leg in an accident earlier the same morning on Western Ave. in which one man was killed. Two weeks earlier, Mevert's father suffered a stroke and is still in a coma. Mrs. Sampson, a neighbor, lost a tree valued at \$100 when the careening auto jumped the curb last Saturday morning and ripped across several Walteria lawns. (Herald photo).

Man Hurt in Auto Crash 4 a.m.; House Rammed by Car 11 a.m.

If trouble comes in batches of three, then Harold Mevert's troubles should be about over. Two weeks ago his father, H. C. Mevert of San Pedro, suffered a stroke and lapsed into a coma while on a trip to Las Vegas, N. M. He is still unconscious and is unable to be returned here.

In the pre-dawn hours on Saturday last, Harold was severely injured in a tragic automobile crash on Western Ave. near the Green Hills Memorial Park. The driver of the other car was killed and Mevert's leg was

crushed and fractured in six places. Less than eight hours after his accident, a neighbor's auto smashed into the corner of his home at 8112 Winlock Dr., resulting in \$800 to \$900 damage. Mevert, a longshoreman, his leg in traction gear at the Kaiser Hospital, shrugs his shoulders and asks: "What next?"

Masked Stocking Bandit Holds Up Radium Theater

Wearing a woman's silk stocking as a mask, a lone bandit held up the cashier of the Radium Theater Sunday evening escaping on foot, according to a police report filed by Dale Gasfiegler, manager of the theater at 2505 W. Redondo Beach Blvd.

Mary Ann Zamapiro, 20, of 1851 Pacific Coast Hwy., Long Beach, told Det. Sgt. Percy Bennett that the holdup man poked

a gun at her through the cashier's cage and a paper bag saying, "Keep quiet and you won't get hurt. Put the money in the bag."

Gasfiegler said he was unable to determine just how much cash the stocking bandit netted. The bandit left on foot running in the direction of Gardena, Miss Zamapiro said. She described the thief as about 30 years of age; 5-foot, 10-inches tall; and weighing about 150 pounds. He had blue eyes, light brown hair and wore no hat. He wore a blue navy jacket, blue pants and blue sport shoes. The gun he was carrying was believed to be an automatic.

WEATHER

It just may be a scorcher today, according to the weather bureau, which has reached a prediction of continued clear today with a high inland of near 88 degrees and 75 around the beaches, with the usual sea breeze to nullify the heat somewhat.



STOCKING MASK . . . Mary Ann Zamapiro, 20-year-old former USO performer and currently a cashier at the Radium Theater, tells reporters (with the aid of standing) how a bandit pulled a stocking over his face to hide his features when he held her up Sunday night. (Herald photo).

John Stroh to Turn Badge in on Jan. 1

The resignation of Police Chief John Stroh on Jan. 1, which he announced Tuesday night, may touch off the hottest political battle since the last municipal election.

The fireworks were ignited at the City Council meeting Tuesday night when Councilman Harvey B. Spelman Jr. made a motion which would open the examination for the job to any qualified resident of the United States and not necessarily to a resident of Torrance only.

Spelman labeled the position of Police Chief as the "hottest job in town." Stroh will wind up 30 years service with the city on Jan. 12. He became Chief of Police in 1936 when he was appointed Director of Public Safety, which at that time included the job of fire chief.

Councilman Nick Drae objected to opening the examination for the succession to Stroh to outsiders. He recommended that the appointment be filled from the ranks of present police officers. Next in line for the appointment at present is Captain Willard H. "Pop" Haslam, assistant police chief.

At present an impossible situation exists according to the current civil service regulations which state that the appointment of police chief will be made after a competitive examination, in other promotions it is customary to elevate the highest point man after a competitive examination. However, since there is only one assistant police chief it would be impossible to conduct a competitive examination with only one man taking the test.

Spelman's motion called for a revision of present civil service rules which would in turn call for examination for chief, assistant chief, and captain. He said that he had absolutely nothing against any member of the present police force and was only anxious to get the best possible man for the job.

"If a member of the Torrance police force passes the test with the highest mark I shall be the very first to recommend his appointment as chief," Spelman answered Drae.

The chief is currently building a home in Yucaipa, a small town between Beaumont and Redlands. He said he would move there as soon as the house is completed.

According to police records, the barricade on the barricades were cold when officers arrived, and had apparently been out for some time. Testimony from witnesses, however, established the fact that the lanterns were burning prior to the crash, and police believe that the impact may have extinguished them.

Police were called by James Warren, of 2020 W. 174th St., who heard Phillip's moans. There will be no inquest into the death.

Phillipi was an employee of Douglas Aircraft Co. in El Segundo.



CHIEF STROH . . . To Turn In Badge

Cyclist Crashes Street Barricade, Hurtles 105 Feet

A motorcyclist was killed late Tuesday night when his cycle crashed through a street barricade on 174th St., hit a dirt pile and sent him hurtling more than 100 feet through the air.

Torrance police estimated that the victim had lain in the street for some time before his moans attracted the attention of a nearby resident, who notified police.

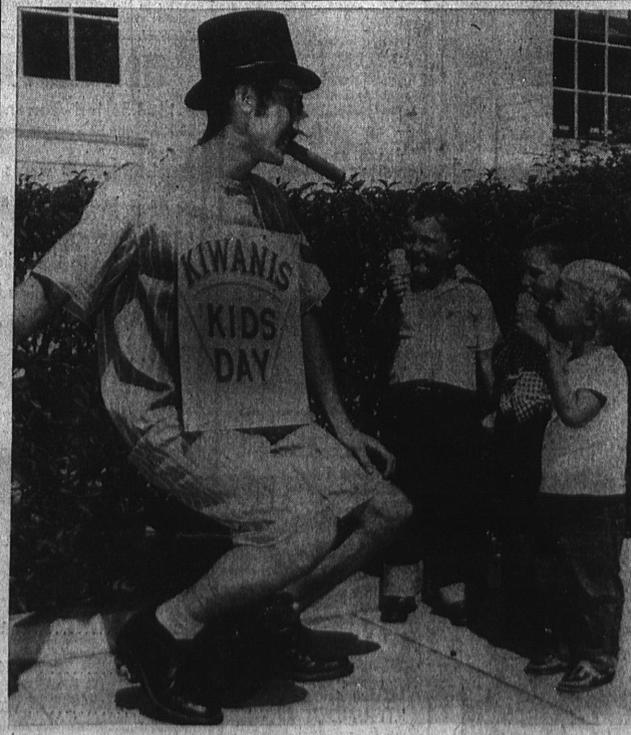
Daniel B. Phillip, 27, of 17584 S. Figueroa St., died at Harbor General Hospital, where he was taken following the accident. Traveling east on 174th St., he apparently failed to see a barricade in front of an excavation 312 feet east of Arlington Ave. and ran through it, struck a pile of dirt and was hurled 105 feet from the point of impact.

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'Get Acquainted' To Be Published On October 25
Promising to be one of the most comprehensive and spectacular editions in Torrance history, the "Get Acquainted Week" issue of the Herald will be published Oct. 25. Leading mercantile establishments, industries and civic groups are cooperating with editors of the Herald in preparing an exciting coverage of this city's remarkable growth. Firms wishing to be included are requested to telephone FAirfax 8-4000. Mayor Mervin M. Schwab has proclaimed the week starting Oct. 25 as "Get Acquainted Week" in Torrance.



FUNNYMAN . . . "Stew McGoo" Sanford, an employee at the American Standard plant here, practices on his one wheel cycle much to the enjoyment of Paul Love, 476, his brother, Don aid, 5, and Keith Wyatt, 27. Uncyclist "McGoo" will be on hand Saturday to entertain the hundreds of kids who will turn out for the Annual Kiwanis Kid's Day Celebration in El Prado Park. (Herald Photo)

ROTHS LOWER PRICES